

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 SAM-01 SAB-01 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

ACDA-07 PRS-01 EB-07 SSM-03 USIA-06 OMB-01 /104 W

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P R 201225Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1202

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 7541

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, KE, UG

SUBJECT: CURRENT KENYA/UGANDA MILITARY SITUATION

1. KENYA DEFENSE MINISTRY PERMSEC KIEREINI TOLD DCM JULY 20 THAT MAJOR GENERAL MULINGE, COMMANDER OF KENYA ARMY, HAD JUST INFORMED HIM THAT PRESIDENT AMIN HAS BEEN PULLING BACK SOME OF HIS TROOPS FROM KENYAN BORDER AREA. ACCORDING TO MULINGE, MORALE OF UGANDAN TROOPS ON BORDER IS VERY POOR, PARTLY BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT SUPPLIES OF FOOD AND OTHER ITEMS. THEREFORE, AMIN IS APPARENTLY ROTATING THEM BACK TO BARRACKS FOR A REST, BUT WILL PROBABLY REPLACE THEM WITH OTHER TROOPS.

2. KIEREINI SAID THAT UGANDAN SITUATION IS NOT AS CRITICAL AS A WEEK AGO AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT AMIN HAS FAILED TO WHIP UP EMOTIONS OF UGANDANS SUFFICIENTLY TO SUPPORT HIM IN WAR AGAINST KENYA. MOREOVER, HE HAS ALSO APPARENTLY FAILED TO CONVINCE UGANDAN ARMED FORCES OF NEED TO GO TO WAR.

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3. RADIO UGANDA THIS MORNING CONTINUES TO CLAIM THAT

KENYA WAS "DEEPLY INVOLVED" IN ISRAELI HIJACK RESCUE RAID, BUT NEWS BROADCAST AT 1000 LOCAL WAS OTHERWISE MUCH MORE CONCILIATORY INsofar AS KENYA AND KENYA'S LEADERS WERE CONCERNED. RADIO UGANDA SAID THAT PRESIDENT AMIN WILL NEVER ATTACK KENYA AND INDICATED THAT AMIN (IN CONTRAST TO HIS RECENT PRONOUNCEMENTS) HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR PRESIDENT KENYATTA AND VICE-PRESIDENT MOI. HOWEVER, GIVEN AMIN'S ERRATIC BEHAVIOR, KIEREINI SAID THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO CONCLUDE FROM MORE CONCILIATORY TONE OF RADIO UGANDA THAT AMIN HAS GIVEN UP HIS EARLIER DETERMINATION TO ATTACK KENYA IN SOME FASHION. NEVERTHELESS, SITUATION APPEARS SOMEWHAT LESS THREATENING AT PRESENT.

4. KIEREINI SAID THAT GOK HAS NO REPEAT NO NEW EVIDENCE TO CONFIRM REPORTED PRESENCE OF LIBYAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT IN UGANDA.
MARSHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL CONDUCT, POLITICAL SITUATION, BORDER GUARDS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NAIROB07541
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760278-1081
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760739/aaaabhvz.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CURRENT KENYA/UGANDA MILITARY SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, KE, UG, (IDI AMIN), (KIEREINI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006